

REMARKS

Claims 4-10, 16-20, and 24-28 are currently pending. Claims 1-3, 11-15 and 21-23 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Applicants reserve the right to pursue original and other claims in this and in other applications.

Applicants' appreciate the Examiner's time and consideration by calling and leaving a message with Applicants' representative on January 30, 2008 indicating that the claims rejections based on the Nomizu reference have been withdrawn and that the claim rejections based on the Chatterjee reference are being maintained. Thus, claims 4-10, 16-20 and 24-28 stand objected to and claims 1, 3, 11-13, 15, 21, and 23 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 3, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chatterjee (U.S. Pat. No. 5,317,652) ("Chatterjee"). Claims 12-15, 21 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chatterjee. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. However, these claims have been cancelled to advance the prosecution of this case.

Claims 4-10, 16-20, and 24-28 stand objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4-9, 16-19, and 24-27 have been rewritten in accordance with the recommendation of the Office and are therefore allowable. Claims 10, 20, and 28 depend, respectively, from claims that have been rewritten and are therefore allowable.

In view of the above, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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